



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2022 EJA Fellow: Emma Schlager



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Organization: Greater Boston Legal Services

Update 1:

With the support of a grant from Equal Justice America, I recently concluded my second week working for GBLS in the Family Law Unit. I am working with low-income victims of domestic abuse and helping them navigate their divorces and custody battles. The need for civil legal aid is urgent.

Update 2:

I am still feeling so fulfilled with the work I am doing with GBLS in the Family Law Unit. GBLS sees many women of lower socioeconomic status who are victims of domestic violence. I am so grateful for EJA which has allowed me to help victims of domestic violence navigate their lives following trauma. It is so important to do this work and I am so inspired by all of the attorneys and clients I work with every day.

Update 3:

This week was very exciting because I went to court with a client for a pretrial hearing. It has been very rewarding to work with this client during the many stages of her case. It has also been very interesting to see how different judges respond to the various cases I have been lucky to observe. I hope to be able to see this client's case through before the next update.

Update 4:

This is my fourth EJA Fellow Update, and I cannot believe it has already gone so fast! We have been very busy at GBLS the last few weeks and it has been so interesting to watch all of my own cases and my fellow intern's cases evolve quickly throughout this process. Recently, I worked on drafting proposed judgments, temporary agreements, and pretrial memos. I have had numerous phone calls and in person visits with clients, and it has



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been so great to have so much responsibility and training from my supervisor. A few weeks ago, we discussed how this work can be draining and difficult, as the lives of some of our clients have been very hard and they have gone through so much. All of our clients are so strong, and it has been so great to be able to help them with the support of my EJA award.

Update 5:

I have had an amazing summer thanks to EJA and GBLS. I have enjoyed working with my amazing supervisors and colleagues in the Family Law Unit for Domestic Violence Victims. While this internship wrapped up two weeks ago, I will take with me the memories, skills, and connections I have made during this incredible experience. As always, the need for civil legal aid is urgent. Please donate if you are so able.